

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 8, 2000

LR 20

doing something other than what it is designed to do. Most of us are aware that during the primary you have a better chance of people coming out who will pay attention and maybe take a little more seriously what is being presented on the ballot. So if you support this amendment, I think you ought to support what Senator Stuhr is trying to do. But as the Speaker pointed out, if you're not going to support it, then we should not go through the steps of moving it into position to be voted on and then wind up short on the number of votes. This proposal did not draw any controversy that I recall. So I'm just adding a little bit to show why it might be advisable to put this proposal on the primary ballot rather than the general. I'm not explaining the proposal because I presume everybody is aware of it, but if you have any questions of me, I'm prepared to answer them.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Further debate on the motion to return? Senator Stuhr, you're recognized to close. Senator Stuhr waives closing. The question is, shall LR 20CA be returned to Select File for specific amendment? Those in favor vote aye, those opposed nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 20, or excuse me, 35 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the resolution.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The motion is agreed to. Senator Stuhr, you're recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. To refresh your memory, this constitutional amendment proposes to amend Article I, Section 27, to keep English as the official language in public schools but strike that English would be the official language that must be taught in private, denominational, and parochial schools. And this was constitutionally suspect and that is the reason that I introduced the constitutional amendment. The amendment that is before you, as was stated, simply strikes the "general election in November" and inserts "primary election in May" and I hope that you will support this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Debate on the Stuhr amendment to LR 20CA. Senator Stuhr, you're recognized to close. Senator Stuhr waives closing. The question is the